



CENTER FOR RESEARCH
ON UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION



Wabash National Study of Liberal Arts Education

WNS Overview: Center of Inquiry

- Coordinated and partially funded by the Center of Inquiry in the Liberal Arts at Wabash College
- <http://www.liberalarts.wabash.edu/study-overview/>



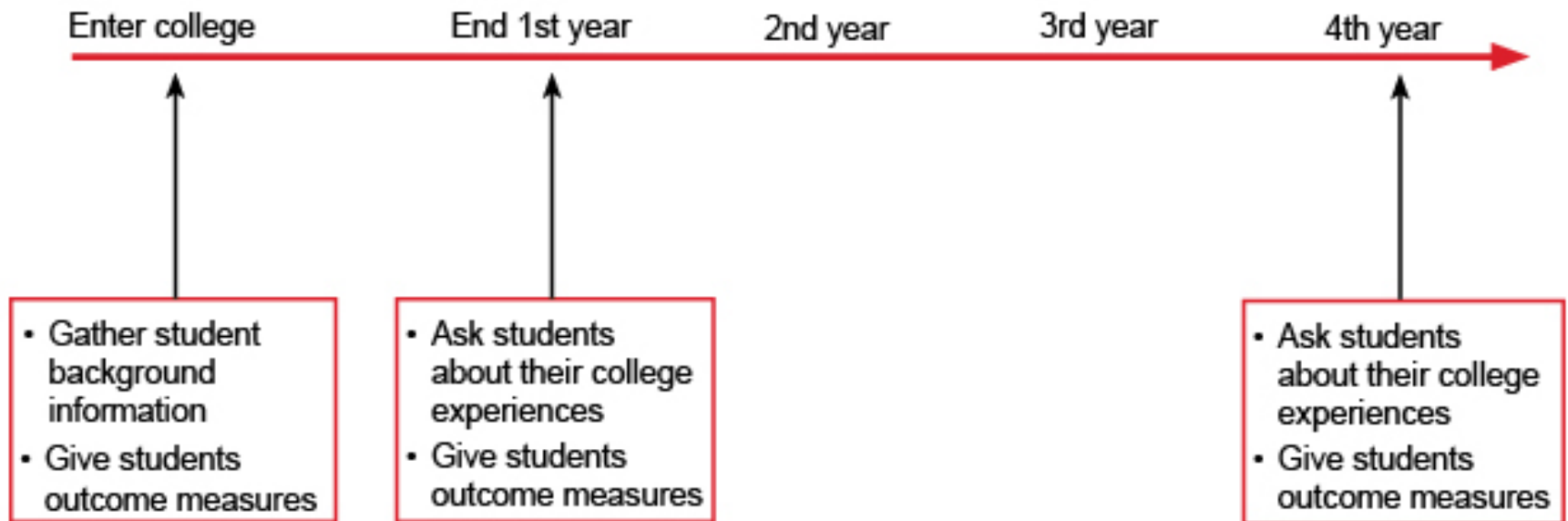
Center of **Inquiry**

WABASH COLLEGE

WNS Overview: Multi-Cohort Design

- **Fall 2006 Cohort** (19 institutions)
- **Fall 2007 Cohort** (8 institutions)
- **Fall 2008 Cohort** (26 institutions)

WNS Overview: Longitudinal Design



Instruments: CAAP

- **Effective Reasoning and Problem-Solving / Critical Thinking Skills**
 - Collegiate Assessment of Academic Proficiency (CAAP)
 - CAAP instrument developed by ACT
 - Administered to ½ of each cohort

Instruments: NFC & PATL

- **Inquiry and Lifelong Learning**
 - Need for Cognition (NFC)
 - Positive Attitudes Toward Literacy Scale (PATL)

Instruments: DIT-2

- **Moral Reasoning Ability**
 - Defining Issues Test 2 (DIT-2)
 - Instrument based on Kohlberg's Theory of Moral Development / Rest's Revised Theory of Moral Development
 - Administered to ½ of each cohort

Instruments: Ryff Scales

- **Psychological Well-Being**
 - Ryff Scales of Psychological Well-Being (PWB)
 - Self-acceptance
 - Environmental mastery
 - Positive relations with others
 - Personal growth
 - Purpose in life
 - Autonomy
 - Measures of physical well-being

Instruments: M-GUDS & ODC

- **Intercultural Effectiveness**
 - Miville-Guzman Universality-Diversity Scale (M-GUDS)
 - Openness to Diversity/Challenge Scale (ODC)

Instruments (SRLS)

- **Leadership**

- Socially Responsible Leadership Scale (SRLS)
 - Consciousness of self
 - Congruence
 - Commitment
 - Collaboration
 - Common purpose
 - Controversy with civility
 - Citizenship

Instruments: Additional Measures

- **Additional Measures**
 - Orientations toward life and career (items from CIRP survey)
 - Contributions to the Arts
 - Political and social involvement
 - Professional success
 - Contribution to science
 - Political-orientation
 - Academic motivation
 - NSSE
 - Wabash Study Student Experiences Survey (WSES)



Personal and Social Responsibility Institutional Inventory



PSRI Overview

- Survey instrument was designed for the AAC&U initiative Core Commitments: Educating Students For Personal and Social Responsibility

(see http://www.aacu.org/core_commitments/)

- Data collected from 23 campuses in 2007
- Responses from approximately 8,400 professionals and from nearly 24,000 students



PSRI: Five Dimensions

- Measures explore 5 dimensions of campus climate:
 - (1) Striving for excellence
 - (2) Cultivating personal and academic integrity
 - (3) Contributing to a larger community
 - (4) Taking seriously the perspectives of others
 - (5) Developing competence in ethical and moral reasoning
- Also includes measures for types and frequency of activities and experiences in which students engaged
- Because both students and professionals responded to similar survey items, comparisons of how different types of individuals viewed the campus climate are possible
- Includes some short answer responses so mixed methods studies (QUAN→qual), as well as quantitative studies, are possible



University of Iowa REACH Program Study

REACH Program Overview

- **Realizing Educational and Career Hopes**
 - **The University of Iowa REACH Program is a two-year, transition certificate program for students with multiple intellectual, cognitive, and learning disabilities. Courses, campus life, and career preparation assist students in reaching their full potential.**

REACH Program Study

- **Target:** Young adults with intellectual, cognitive, and learning disabilities
- **Data:** Collecting three waves until now (2011, 2013, 2013)
- **Application:** With pretest and posttest, comparing with Wabash data



Current CRUE Research Projects & Becoming Involved



Learning More About Quantitative & Qualitative Research Methods

Spring 2014 Research Methods Course Offerings

- Introductory Courses
 - 07X:150 Introduction to Educational Research
- Qualitative Courses
 - 07B: 373 Qualitative Research Design and Methods
 - 07B:392 Mixed Methods Research
- Quantitative Courses
 - 07B:206 Research Process and Design

Fall 2014 Research Methods Course Offerings (Anticipated)

- Introductory Courses
 - 07X:150 Introduction to Educational Research
- Quantitative Courses
 - 07B:206 Research Process and Design
 - 034:214 Intro to Sociological Data Analysis

COE Statistics Outreach Center

- The SOC offers short-term consulting on statistical data analysis and training for College of Education faculty, staff, and students at no charge
- <http://www.education.uiowa.edu/centers/statoutreach/short-courses>